

**DYNAMIC AUTHENTICATION OF ELECTRONIC MESSAGES USING
A REFERENCE TO A CERTIFICATE**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Systems and methods for dynamic authentication of a digital signature included in an electronic message are provided. The sender sends a certificate reference together with a digitally signed electronic message. The certificate reference uniquely maps to a certificate stored in a public key infrastructure (PKI). Upon receipt of the message, including the certificate reference, the recipient requests the certificate from the PKI by sending the certificate reference to the PKI. The PKI responds by mapping the certificate reference to the corresponding certificate and providing the certificate, which may then be used to authenticate the digital signature.

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